

Policy Methods

Now that Mr. Dulles has returned to his job it is said in Administration circles that he will carry on as before, with no change of method in foreign-policy making or in the conduct of foreign policy. This just about must be said officially, for to say anything else would imply criticism within the Administration of the way in which Mr. Dulles has handled foreign policy; yet it is hard to see how it can be wholly true.

Much has happened in the world since Mr. Dulles became ill. Many decisions at various levels, including the top level, have had to be made. If Mr. Dulles had been well he would have made some of these decisions himself and would have had a close hand in all. Under the circumstances, the problems came directly to the President. They had to come to him. One effect of Mr. Dulles's illness was to reveal that as now set up the State Department is too personal an operation to possess an adequate replacement for an absent Secretary.

Having put his hand to the plow and kept it there for a considerable period President Eisenhower, who in any event is the man finally responsible for the furrow, seems likely to maintain a firmer control than in the past, and a more constant and intimate control.

A further change in method is presaged in the announcement that Governor Herter of Massachusetts will become Under Secretary of State, a move that will bring into the State Department something it has lacked since Gen. Walter Bedell Smith left—a second man who has the stature of a Secretary of State and who may, in Governor Herter's case, become one.

Again, persistent reports that General ~~Smith~~ or General Gruenther, when the latter takes up his Washington post as head of the American Red Cross, will serve unofficially as foreign-policy adviser to the President may be mere rumors; but their very persistence is another sign that our foreign policy, though unaltered in its essentials, is henceforward going to be handled day by day in a somewhat different fashion.